Closing the Literacy Gap



Welcome to

Story Lab

THE CHILDREN'S LITERACY CHARITY

www.thechildrensliteracycharity.org.uk



Welcome to Story Lab

Story Lab is a 12-week programme that uses storytelling to support early language skills and emotional development.

Your child will work with an expert tutor - specially recruited and trained by the Children's Literacy Charity - twice a week in a small group of up to five children.

They will take part in an interactive storytelling session, using diverse stories to develop their literacy and social skills. Each session includes activities like rhyming, repetition, songs, games and discussion to boost vocabulary, listening, and engagement.

Children's early language experiences are critical to their cognitive development and act as a powerful predictor of their future educational achievement across the curriculum, their social and emotional wellbeing and future opportunities.

Oracy Education Commission Report, 2024, 'We Need to Talk.'



“Reading and writing float on a sea of talk”

James Britton

Stories and Storytelling

Listening to and retelling stories help young children to develop vital early oracy skills, empathy and confidence. **Oracy is the ability to articulate ideas, develop understanding and engage with others through spoken language.** Without oracy, children may struggle to build the communication skills needed to express themselves clearly and share their ideas.

The stories we use have been carefully chosen to be high quality, diverse, engaging and rich in vocabulary. They will encourage children to use and develop:

- Repetitive language
- Rhyming words
- Clear sentence structures
- Language rhythms and patterns
- Emotional vocabulary
- Imagination

In their twice-weekly sessions, our expert tutors use a range of engaging storytelling techniques to develop your child’s ability to connect with and retell stories.





Supporting Families

Families play a vital role in supporting their child's learning and we encourage parents and carers wherever possible to get involved.

- When a child takes part in Story Lab, they are given a copy of the book to take home and keep, as well as suggestions of activities, rhymes, songs and games relating to the book that you can try with them at home
- We run parent and carer workshops so that you can support your child at home using the Story Lab books
- We encourage families to attend a Story Lab assembly to celebrate their child's achievements with us
- We offer schools the opportunity to invite parents and carers to see our work in action by visiting a Story Lab session

You can find more information about Story Lab, along with tips, resources and more on how to support your child at home, on the family learning section on our website:

www.thechildrensliteracycharity.org.uk/story-lab-learning